FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Tehran radio reported that Iraqi planes launched further raids on residential areas of Bakhtaran 23 December, citing provisional estimates that 10 people were killed and 124 injured.

Earlier, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied Iran's claim that Iraqi aircraft bombed residential areas in Eslamabad-e Gharb 22 December, stressing that Iraqi raids that day were directed against military targets in the operational sectors. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio noted that the targets included a camp and ammunition depot in Shahabad, the former name for Eslamabad-e Gharb. In further reports on the results of Iraqi attacks, Tehran radio said that 43 civilians were killed in Eslamabad-e Gharb, while IRNA announced that the death toll from the 21 December raid on Bakhtaran had risen to 103.

As for the naval war, an Iranian military statement reported by IRNA asserted that the Iranian Navy sunk three Iraqi frigates in the Khawr 'Abdallah channel 22 December. The claim was denied by an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA.

Lebanon: Camps War

Arab League foreign ministers issued a statement in Tunis calling for an immediate cease-fire in the camps war and for an end to the siege of Palestinian camps in Lebanon, KUNA reported. The ministers formed an eight-man committee to mediate an end to the fighting, the agency said, noting that the committee consists of the Arab League secretary general and the foreign ministers of Algeria, Jordan, the UAE, Tunisia, Kuwait, Mauritania, and the YAR.

Voice of Lebanon radio reported further clashes in Beirut 22 December and also cited reports of renewed shelling of Al-Rashidiyah camp, south of Tyre.

Iran: Internal Affairs

"Some officials" have written certain things about the dissolution of the amnesty committee which are untrue, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni told members of the committee in a letter broadcast by Tehran radio. The committee has not been dissolved, he stressed, and it must continue its work with care and precision.

French Officials in Iran, Egypt

A French delegation began talks with officials in Tehran on settling French-Iranian financial disputes, IRNA reported.

Reporting on talks between the French and Egyptian foreign ministers in Cairo, MENA said the two sides expressed "identical views" on issues discussed, which included the Palestinian issue, Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war, and Chad.

Libya and Chad

A Chadian military communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio accused the Libyans of using napalm and "toxic gases" against the inhabitants of Zouar, in the Tibesti region. The communique spoke of "fierce fighting" as the Libyans launched another attack on Zouar. However, Tripoli television broadcast a Foreign Liaison Bureau statement reaffirming Libya's claim that it has "no connection" with the fighting in northern Chad. Accusing the United States and France of trying to "internationalize" the internal conflict in Chad, the statement warned that Libya "will not stand quietly before the U.S. and French aggression because the matter now threatens the security of its southern borders."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Najibullah Addresses DYOA Secretaries 23 Dec

LD230657 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0515 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Kabul, December 22, BAKHTAR — The party and state of the DRA have always called for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan and we are enjoying the permanent support of the CPSU and the Soviet state in this respect. This was stated by Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, at the second nation-wide session of the secretaries of the primary organisations of the Army youth which was held here today.

The DRA and the Soviet Union have exerted considerable efforts for the normalisation of the relations between the DRA and Pakistan. These efforts will be stepped up in the future. The eighth round of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan at the level of foreign ministers will be held in Geneva shortly, stressed Najib. Lately, the prospects for the improvement of political conditions in the region in the near future are not bright.

The enemies of Afghanistan, said Najib, correlate all the problems to the presence of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union in the DRA whereas this depends upon the mutual relations of both the countries, Najib pointed out. The fact that the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union will return to their homeland has been made clear to all. The question is only on the time schedule. This could be expedited to the extent that the Armed Forces of the DRA would be able to defend the people from the danger of domestic and foreign enemies. It now depends on the practical guarantees to be provided for non-intervention from abroad, said Najib.

Calling on the youths of the country, Najib said that in considering these issues the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan should devote much attention to the question of armed defence of the country, the people, and the revolution.

IRNA Reports NFF Deputy Shot by Mujahidin

LD220927 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchistan Prov., Dec 21, IRNA — The deputy of Afghanistan's National Fatherland Front [NFF], Reza Marvi, was shot and injured by Afghan Muslim mujahidin in Herat on Dec 17, said informed sources here Sunday. The sources added that Marvi was one of the main agents of the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan who pretends to play the role of a mediator between the Afghans and the government. Marvi was shot in one of the streets of Herat.

Meanwhile the Afghan Muslim mujahidin who are fighting against the Afghan Government and occupying Soviet forces, killed another government agent, Delavar, in Qezel Eslam border area, Dec 15. Delavar and several other government forces residing in a military vehicle hit a mine planted by mujahidin. All passengers of the car were killed. According to reliable Afghan sources Delavar was in charge of the forces assigned to crush the mujahidin in the Qezel Eslam border region.

In another development the Afghan Muslim mujahidin in two separate operations on Dec 1 and 8 in Herat killed six senior officers and two other military personnel. In these operations 16 of the Afghan soldiers joined the mujahidin.

Reportage on Further Operations by Mujahidin

Forces Attacked Near Lowgar

BK221549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin attacked Soviet-Kabul positions in (Qala Sohrab) near Lowgar killing or wounding 14 soldiers. In retaliation, the Soviet-Kabul forces bombarded the area from helicopters killing many civilians. Reports also say that mujahidin attacked security posts in (Qutub Khel) and Bad Qaq killing 10 persons.

10 Soviet-Kabul Troops Killed

BK201128 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin surrounded the Army post near the (Nowman) town in Parvan Province recently and killed 10 Soviet-Kabul troops. According to another report, the mujahidin attacked the mobile security force near the provincial headquarter of Charikar and killed or injured 13 Soviet-Kabul troops. A tank and Army vehicle were destroyed during the operation.

Karachi Reports Helicopter Downed

BK191643 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a helicopter in Jaghuri, the subdivision of Ghazni. This helicopter became the target of missiles as it flew over mujahidin positions.

Another report says the mujahidin repulsed an attack by Soviet-Kabul forces in (Farwai) subdivision, killing more than 15 soldiers and capturing 14. Among the killed and injured there were one colonel, one captain, and three junior officers.

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Policy Advisory Committee Chairman Resigns

BK221555 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Mr G. Parthasarathi, chairman of the Policy Advisory Committee, has resigned. The prime minister has accepted the resignation. This was officially announced in New Delhi today.

Ministers Brief Gandhi on Talks With Jayewardene

BK221654 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The two union ministers, Mr Natwar Singh and Mr Chidambaram, who have been engatged in finding an equitable and durable solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, today reported to Mr Rajiv Gandhi about their discussions with President Jayewardene in Colombo. The two ministers are just back from Sri Lanka after prolonged talks with Mr Jayewardene and others on the issue. They will meet the Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, in New Delhi tomorrow and brief him about their talks.

Later this week they will proceed to Madras for discussions with Tamil groups in their efforts to find a solution to the issue.

Spokesman Denies Talks Deadlocked

BK211646 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Excerpt][Passage omitted] An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that the discussions with President Jayewardene were useful. He described some reports appearing in a section of the press that the talks were deadlocked as baseless and speculative. The dialogue will continue by the parties concerned, he added.

Home Secretary Tells Gandhi of Pakistan Talks

BK221552 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The home secretary, Mr C. G. Somiah, apprised the prime minister today of the Indian delegation's discussions with the Pakistani interior secretary and his colleagues in Lahore. The foreign secretary, Mr Vankateswaran, and the Indian ambassador to Pakistan, Mr S.K. Singh, were present. Later, they reported to the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs about the discussions with the Pakistani officials.

Addresses Newsmen's Questions

BK211628 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] India and Pakistan have agreed on a package of measures to combat problems like terrorism, illegal crossing of borders, drug trafficking, and smuggling. This was disclosed by the home secretary, Mr G.C. Somiah, in New Delhi today. The package was evolved during the 2-day official-level talks which Mr Somiah had with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr S.K. Mahmud, in Lahore. Answering questions by newsmen, Mr Somiah said the outcome of the agreement would depend upon sincere follow-up and implementation of the measures agreed upon between the two countries.

Replying to a question, the home secretary said India did put forward at the meeting the evidence about the involvement of Pakistan in the terrorist activities in Punjab. He said the Pakistani side was receptive to the evidence placed before it. Mr Somiah said the reaction of the Pakistani officials was also positive to another suggestion that persons caught while crossing the border between the two countries should be sent back. The home secretary said he is satisfied with the response and approach of the Pakistani side to the problems discussed.

A joint press release issued at the end of the talks says Pakistan has assured India that it will not provide any support to terrorist activities directed against India. It says the Pakistan Government is opposed to all forms of terrorism in Punjab and elsewhere.

The two countries have agreed to set up a committee to combat drug trafficking and smuggling. It will have five members each from India and Pakistan and will meet periodically to evolve a common strategy to counter and eliminate these activities. The two sides will also exchange information relating to drug traffickers and smugglers for speedy follow-up action.

As an immediate step toward controlling illegal border crossings, the two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation between the border security forces. The two secretaries also reviewed the situation as it exists along the border and agreed to constitute a committee to draft new ground rules for the consideration of the two governments. The All India Radio Islamabad correspondent, R.K. Mathur, reports that the two sides reiterated their resolve to establish good-neighborly relations, reaffirming the commitment of their governments to the Simla Agreement.

DMK Members Expelled From Tamil Nadu Assembly

BK221352 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The Tamil Nadu assembly has expelled 10 [number as heard] DMK members for violating the oath of office by burning copies of part 17 of the Constitution at public places. An official resolution to this effect was moved by the leader of the House, Mr V.R. Nedunchezhian. The motion was carried by 131 votes in favor and 24 against. The expelled members include the leader of the DMK legislature party, Mr K. Anbazhagan. The other members are Mr S. Balan, Mr A. Selvarajan, (Erumavazhuthi), Mr R. Chinnaswamy, Mr M. Abraham, Mr C. Arumugam, and Mr V.K. Raju.

The members of the ruling AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] and the nominated members supported the move while the DMK, CPI, CPI-M, Janata, Indian Union of Muslim League, and All India Forward Block opposed it. The Congress-I walked out of the House even before the opposition

pressed for division. The 1-day session of the assembly later adjourned sine die.

Army Alerted in Goa After Increased Violence

BK211608 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] The Army has been alerted in the wake of increasing violent incidents in south Goa, particularly in Margao City. For the first time after the liberation of Goa, an army flag march was held in the city in the evening. Road blocks were set up at various places. In a group clash in Dongri in south Goa, 2 persons were killed and 10 persons injured. The clash took place when some people who were removing road blocks were attacked by the agitationists.

Rail and road traffic in south Goa continued to be disrupted for the 3d day today. Air traffic was also disrupted. People took out processions in south Goa to the residences of the information minister, Mr Baikunth Desai; the agriculture minister, Mr Francisco Sardinha; and a Congress-I member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr Manuel Fernandes. There are reports of stone throwing on the residences of Mr Sardinha and Mr Fernandes. Tourists have been stranded at various places due to the agitation.

Meanwhile, the lieutenant governor of Goa, Dr Gopal Singh, has ordered a magisterial inquiry into yesterday's firing incident at (Goghal), Margao, in which one person died. Meanwhile, the union minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, has appealed to the people to shun violence and promised that the twin issues of statehood and Konkani language will be resolved by the center.

AFP Reports on Situation

NC211908 Paris AFP in English 1851 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 21 (AFP) — Troops moved in to quell violence in the former Portuguese enclave of Goa Sunday night as two people died and more than a dozen others were injured in renewed language riots, taking the death toll to four in two days of violence, the *Press Trust of India* said. Some 3,500 rioters stormed the house of a local minister and the entire capital town of Panaji was plunged into darkness after the power supply system was sabotaged, the news agency said.

Goa, a tiny federally administered territory on the western Arabian sea coast with a population of just over one million, became part of India after liberation from the Portuguese in 1961. The language campaign flared into violence in the face of opposition from Goa's Marathi-speaking minority to Konkani being made the territory's official language. Marathi is the official language in neighbouring Maharashtra state which has Bombay as its capital.

PTI said villagers of Dongri in Margao, some 10 kilometres (six miles) to the south of Panaji, fired on Konkani language supporters, enraged over road barricades erected by the latter in the area. Police were quoted as saying that at least two died and 14 others were injured in the shooting by the apparently Marathi-speaking villagers. Two had died Saturday, one in police gunfire and another in rival group violence, newspapers said earlier.

At Curtorim, near Panaji, some 3,500 Konkani supporters stormed and ransacked the ancestral house of Goa Agriculture Minister Francisco Sardinha. They had gone there to ask the minister to [be] quiet as part of a general call given by the Konkani activists to all the local legislators and ministers to resign on the language issue.

Some 500 additional para-military Central Reserve Police (CRP) personnel had been flown into Goa as the situation worsened, PTI said.

Situation 'Under Control'

BK220310 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] In south Goa the situation is under control. According to the inspector general of police, no untoward incident has been reported for the last 12 hours. Road blockades are continuing in various parts of south Goa. There are reports of minor road blockades in the capital city of Panaji. Meanwhile, the lieutenant governor, Dr Gopal Singh, has appealed to the people of Goa to keep peace and shun violence. In a statement in Panaji last night, he said all political parties and linguistic organizations had given him the solemn undertaking that they will not agitate over the question of language or statehood for Goa by taking to the streets.

Army Units Leave, on Standby

BK220905 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] In south Goa the situation is reported to be tense but under control. Road blockades are continuing in various parts. Some of the culverts were damaged at some places paralyzing vehicular traffic. Normal life remained affected in several places, including Margao and Vasco. UNI, quoting a government spokesman, said that the Army units which moved into Margao were sent back to the barracks with standby orders. More CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] units have been airlifted to the union territory to check violence. A PTI report said there were incidents of road blocks in Tivim and Calangute in north Goa. The agency said a fishing net factory was set on fire at Margao last night. A house and two milk booths were set ablaze. The lieutenant governor of Goa has announced a grant of 20,000 rupees for the family of those killed in the police firing at Margao. He has also ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident. The demonstrators are demanding official status for Konkani and statehood for Goa.

Efforts Made To Restore Normalcy

BK230921 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] The situation in south Goa continues to be disturbed with road and rail traffic still affected in many areas. No major incident has been reported since this morning. The death toll in

Sunday's group clash at Dongri has risen to six with the recovery of one more body today. Normal life at Margao and Vasco has been disrupted and it was partially affected in Panaji. Police are removing road blocks at several places and they have cleared the Margao-Panaji road via Ponda. The funeral of a youth killed in the police firing at Margao on Saturday passed off peacefully today.

Meanwhile, the chief minister, Mr Pratap Singh Rane, told newsmen in Panaji this morning that every effort will be made to restore normalcy and no efforts will be spared to maintain law and order. Mr Rane also said that the Goa assembly session will be held in the first week of February next year and the language issue will be solved in the House as the official language bill is before it.

Four cabinet ministers of Goa and the pradesh [state] Congress-I chief, Mrs Sulochana Katkar, are leaving for New Delhi this evening for consultations at the invitation of the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro. The main opposition party in the Goa assembly — the Maharshtravadi Gomantak Party — has demanded the resignation of Rane ministry and imposition of president's rule. The president of the party, Mr Ramakant Khalap, told newsmen that the government has failed to protect the life and property of people in south Goa.

Death Toll Rises to 5

BK221651 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Excerpts] In south Goa the death toll in yesterday's group clashes has risen to 5 with the discovery of three more bodies. The situation continues to be tense as more incidents of road blockades are reported. Air, rail, and road traffic remained paralyzed for the 4th day. Normal life in Panaji, Vasco, and Margao was disrupted with most of the establishments remaining closed except government offices. [passage omitted] According to an official spokesman in Panaji all road blocks have been cleared in the capital city. Regular bus service will be resumed tomorrow.

The lieutenant governor, Dr Gopal Singh, today called a meeting of main political leaders to issue an appeal for peace and form peace committees in major towns. The minister of state, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, met the prime minister in New Delhi today and apprised him of the situation in Goa.

New Cabinet Meets, Reviews Issues 22 Dec

BK221648 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The new Federal Cabinet held its first meeting in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of the prime minister. The meeting reviewed important national issues with particular reference to such areas of public activity where more effective efforts were required and (?improve the performance) of various government departments. Special consideration was given to the measures to be taken to promote a sense of security among the people and security of life and property of the citizens.

The prime minister emphasized that their induction in the cabinet placed upon them a great responsibility and every member of the cabinet will have to work very hard to solve the problems of the people especially those highlighted by the elected representatives and members of Parliament. He advised his colleagues to maintain effective contact of the people and the elected represen tatives with a view to solving their problems and executing the development programs expeditiously.

The members of the Cabinet assured the prime ministe of their resolve to dedicate themselves to the national goal, ideology of Pakistan, and amelioration of the lot of the common man. The meeting began with the recitation from the Holy Koran by the Interior Minister Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak.

Karachi Press Note Says Situation 'Peaceful'

BK221650 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] A press note issued in Karachi tonight says the situation remained peaceful today and no untoward incident took place anywhere in the city.

SRI LANKA

Minister on Political Solution to Ethnic Issue

BK221324 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] It is easy to solve problems through the use of might but it is not a popular method to adopt, says the national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali. He also said the political solution should be sought to the ethnic problem which is plaguing the country. The minister said the world had faced [as heard] the latest proposals put forward by the president seeking a permanent solution.

The national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, was speaking at a meeting largely attended by the youths of the area. Answering a question by a participant, Mr Athulathmudali said the release of the two soldiers by the terrorists showed that a meaningful dialogue had been established between the Armed Forces in Jaffna and the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and he said he was hopeful that it can lead to further measures to resolve the conflict.

Clandestine Radio on Talks With Indian Officials

BK211012 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1326 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Reports say that the Sri Lanka and Indian leaders had second round of extensive talks on the problem of the Tamil Eelam people in Colombo yesterday evening. It is understood that the talks figure on the formation of the provincial councils, the concerned areas of jurisdiction, and the provincial council elections. At the talks the Indian side was represented by the Ministers of State P. Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, and a legal expert Balakrishnan; and the Sri Lankan side was represented by Jayewardene, who led the delegation, Gamini Dissanayake, Lalith Athulathmudali, and A.C.S. Hameed. Sri Lankan Election Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva and the author of *History of Sri Lanka*, Kingsley de Silva, were also invited by Jayewardene for providing explanations on provincial councils and allied matters. The book *History of Sri Lanka* by Kingsley de Silva was written keeping in mind the welfare of the majority Sinhalese community and projecting the Eastern Province as the ancesteral land of the Sinhalese people. In his book, he has produced evidence for the traditional inhabitation of the Sinhalese people in the Eastern Province. The Sinhalese village, Cheruvila, which is on the border of Tamil Eelam was also reviewed. The freedom fighters organizations have already informed Chidambaram that even after 1948, there were adequate number of political representatives of the Tamils from the east. In spite of this, the Indian side also evinced interest in reviewing history. Therefore, the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam says that yesterday's talks were not in conformity with the practical approach and will not be useful under the emergency situation now. They all talk about history only. We are for the current situation.

Talks Followed 'Expected Pattern'

BK211452 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1328 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's special envoys, the Ministers of State P. Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, have returned to New Delhi after concluding their talks in Colombo yesterday. Their talks with the Sri Lankan Government held yesterday and the day before were of the expected pattern. Reports also say that their talks with the Sri Lankan Freedom Party leader Srimavo Bandaranaike also did not succeed. Srimavo Bandaranaike said the Indian Government should persuade the Tamil freedom fighters to accept the adequate concessions offered by Jayewardene and that her party will not support the provincial council system as it will split the country [words indistinct]. This has hampered the expectations of the Indian ministers. P. Chidambaram's group has returned to New Delhi with the conclusion that nothing could be constructively done based on this. The reports received by us from New Delhi say that the senior Indian officials will have talks with the leaders of the freedom fighters subsequently and that these talks will be crucial.

Jaffna 'Terrorists' Respond Positively to Truce

BK251117 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Excerpt] The terrorists in Jaffna have responded positively to a Christmas truce called by the national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali yesterday. The minister said the proposed truce was the second phase of a general plan which included the release of two soldiers held captive by LTTE terrorists last week. The minister was speaking at the Christmas mahapola [fair] at the (Ragama) junior school last night. This is the first time that the mahapola is being held within the premises of a church.

Speaking further, the minister said that we must prepare ourselves from now to make 1987 a year of peace. He pointed out that the government has been able to prove that the separatists cannot achieve their goal. [passage omitted]

PRC's Geng Biao Arrives in Tehran 19 Dec

NC200904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] (?The first) PRC National People's Congress delegation led by Vice Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee Geng Biao arrived in Tehran last night. The members of this delegation were welcomed by several deputies from the Islamic Consultative Assembly as well as officials from our Foreign Ministry.

According to a Central News Unit report the PRC delegation will stay in Iran for (?5) days. The same report adds that the vice chairman of the PRC National People's Congress, who is also chairman of the PRC Committee for Foreign Relations, spoke with our correspondent about the reason for his visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The PRC official stated: The people of Iran and China have relations which date back 2,000 years. Thanks to efforts by both countries joint relations in political, economic, cultural, and other fields (?have improved) in recent years. (?Visits by officials from both countries), especially the one by Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Hashemi-Rafsanjani, opened a new chapter in bilateral relations. I hope that during this visit we will be able to exchange common experiences in [words indistinct]

Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD201916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Vice Chairman of the PRC National People's Congress Standing Committee Geng Biao met with Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani this evening. Geng Biao was accompanied by his delegation.

At the meeting Geng Biao pointed to the global policies followed by the United States and the USSR and the objectives sought by the two superpowers. He condemned the expansionist policies of the United States and said: Contrary to the view of the United States that Taiwan is an unsinkable aircraft-carrier, Taiwan is part of the sacred and inseparable soil of the PRC. Pointing out that the USSR and the United States proclaim disarmament slogans but in fact want the arms race, he said: The USSR must leave Afghanistan.

In conclusion, expressing pleasure at the friendly relations between the PRC and the Islamic Republic of Iran, he urged a greater expansion of relations.

Describing the global policies of the PRC as wise, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We believe that your country's policies will lead to the restoration of its prominent role in the world and fulfill its principle role in the future. This is only possible by preserving just and friendly relations with the Third World countries and nations and by taking care not to become trapped into dependence on its relations with the expansionist superpowers.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani condemned the expansionist policies of the West and the East, and said: The United States and the USSR have many problems. The USSR is being defeated in Afghanistan and the United States has become very weak following the rise of the Islamic Revolution in the Middle East. We believe that the Third World countries, by adopting wise policies, will triumph over the colonialist superpowers.

In conclusion, expressing pleasure at the bilateral relations, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly stressed the need to expand and improve existing relations. He urged further exchanges of political and economic delegations between the two countries.

Confers With Majlis' Yazdi

LD201937 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 20, IRNA — Visiting Chinese Deputy of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Geng Biao expressed satisfaction over the developing trend of Tehran-Beijing relations here Saturday.

In a meeting with Majlis (Parliament) Vice-Chairman Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Yazdi, Geng briefed him on China's stance vis-a-vis the world powers as well as regional issues. He further called for more exchange of views between the two countries' parliamentarians.

On disarmament, the Chinese deputy said that the two big powers (U.S. and USSR) should be disarmed first in order to achieve global peace.

Hoj Yazdi replied that disarmament negotiations between the two big powers are rather compliments and political formalities and that the two have not yet realized the seriousness of the issue." The two powers talk about disarmament but simultaneously carry out nuclear tests," he added.

The hojjat ol-eslam also expalined Iran's foreign policy and expressed hope that China, as a strong country, would stand by the Third World countries.

Elsewhere, Hojjat ol-Eslam Yazdi referred to Iraq's continued violation of international laws and called for the world's condemnation of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. "Iranian Muslim combatants will continue the war until the eventual victory." Yazdi said.

Geng, heading a parliamentary delegation, arrived here early Friday for a five-day visit.

Meets Majlis Commission Chief

LD211631 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — The visiting Deputy of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress Geng Biao conferred here Sunday with head of the Majlis Commission for Foreign Affairs, Ahmad 'Azizi. Head of the Chinese parliamentary delegation, Geng, outlining the importance of exchange of views between the two countries' MP's said that People's Republic of China is keen to develop Sino-Iran ties. The Chinese official also explained his country's foreign policies vis-a-vis U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In reply Ahmad 'Azizi welcomed China's suggestion on exchange of parliamentary delegations and the idea of forming a joint parliamentary council. Explaining the principles [of] Iran's 'neither East nor West' foreign policy, 'Azizi reaffirmed Iran's firm determination against resuming relations with the U.S., the Zionist entity, and the apartheid regime of South Africa, either directly or indirectly. Iran's main ideal is to be a model non-aligned country in the real sense of the word, he added. Regretting that the so-called Third World bloc has failed to achieve any real non-alignment, despite its distinct features, 'Aziz remarked that formation of 'a fourth world' may perhaps bring close together all those countries which are confronting the domination of the East and West. It can even unite these countries in achieving their goals, he added.

On [the] Iraqi-imposed war, the Iranian official said it was imposed on the Islamic Republic with the backing of the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The war is a phenomenon which belongs not only to Iran but to all humanity, 'Aziz noted. He stressed that all the world's independent countries should boldly fight against this phenomenon, especially repeated Iraqi violations of all international norms and prevent the Baghdad regime from committing such crimes.

The Chinese parliamentary delegation arrived here on Dec 19.

Received by Velayati

LD211721 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, (IRNA) — Visiting Chinese Deputy of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Geng Biao met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and discussed issues relevant to Tehran-Beijing relations, here Saturday. The Chinese official told Velayati that Sino-Iranian relations have noticeably expanded over the past few years and added that future prospects are quite bright. Tehran-Beijing ties have always been cordial both in the past and at present and will continue to be so in the future, said Geng. He also lauded the Islamic Republic for its wise economic policies and for being one of those few Third World countries which have virtually no foreign debts. The Chinese official furthermore emphasized that both the Iranian and Chinese nations should make the best use of experiences and share them with each other.

In response, Velayati described both the Islamic Republic and the People's Republic of China as "powerful" countries in Asia and expressed hope that the two countries would enjoy durable relations. Velayati stressed that independence from both the superpowers as essential in order to save the world.

Discusses Relations With Mirzadeh

LD221245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Today, during a meeting with the prime minister's Executive Deputy Mirzadeh, Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of PRC National People's Congress Geng Biao, who is in our country at the head of a high-ranking delegation, called his talks with Iranian officials fruitful. He called for the expansion of mutual relations, especially in economic fields. He added, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the PRC have laid the foundations of good relations in the commercial and economic fields. I am certain that these relations will expand even further.

During the meeting the prime minister's executive deputy and chairman of the joint economic committee of Iran and China referred to the present friendly relations between the two countries. He praised Iran's [as heard] strong and strategic relations. He said, the existing economic and trade potentials of the two countries necessitate further economic ties between Iran and China. No doubt, the visit by you and your entourage will prepare more suitable grounds for relations between the two great and powerful Asian countries. He added, despite the imposed war and its heavy costs, not only are we implementing several large-scale projects in the various economic-industrial fields, but also, with the assistance of our specialist cadre, we are cooperating with several countries in the economic and technical fields, especially the exploration and extraction of oil. Before the victory of the Islamic Revolution, due to the subservience of the monarchical regime, the smallest job was not possible in our country without foreign experts.

He concluded by stressing the importance of implementing the agreements reached between the two countries and exchanging beneficial experiences of the two revolutionary countries in the economic-industrial fields.

Indian Minister of State Continues Visit

Meets With Musavi 19 Dec

LD192123 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 19, IRNA — The visiting Indian minister of state for industrial affairs, Arunachalam, in a meeting with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Friday morning discussed mutual economic issues. During the meeting, which was attended by the Iranian minister of heavy industries, Behzad Nabavi, the Indian official who arrived here Tuesday night briefed the premier on progress of his negotiations with the Iranian officials.

Praising the determination of the Islamic Republic of Iran to achieve industrial self-(?dependance) Arunachalam said that his country will consider this policy of Iran as the axis in its efforts to expand its industrial cooperation with Iran. Arunachalam also expressed willingness of his country for further expansion of mutual relations and assured the prime minister that India will further increase quality of its export items. He further hoped that the two countries will enjoy good cooperation in the February session of the joint economic commission to be held in New Delhi.

Prime Minister Musavi stressed that geographical locations of the two countries required good cooperation between them. The premier also stressed that problems on the way of further expansion of mutual relations should be removed soon so that they could elevate the level of their industrial cooperation.

Ends Visit; Departs

NC200739 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Indian Minister of State for Industrial Development Mr Arunachalam, who had come to Tehran at the head of a delegation, left this morning. He was seen off by Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi.

The same report notes that the Indian minister of state met with various officials during his stay in Iran to discuss bilateral industrial cooperation. He expressed his country's readiness to cooperate with Iran in various fields, particularly in projects dealing with the manufacture of train cars and cement, road construction, and the purchase of Iranian non-oil products.

SAIRI Session Issues Resolution on Iraq's Future

LD191722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) ended the third general assembly of its sixth session with the slogan of Islamic unity for the overthrow of the mercenary Iraqi regime.

According to a report from the Central News Unit, over the 3 days of its session the assembly reviewed the present situation of the oppressed people of Iraq and the mounting victorious revolution of that country's Muslim people. The session ended its work by issuing a resolution. The resolution thanks the Islamic Republic of Iran and reviews allegiance to the imam of the nation and his successor and the country's officials, especially the respected president of the Republic. It stresses the weakness of the Iraqi regime with regard to the heroic blows of the mojahedin and the combatant forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and directs a warning to world arrogance and the reactionary countries of the region. The resolution states: We shall continue to deliver blows to the disintegrating body of the regime ruling over Iraq until our last breath and we shall not rest until this regime has been overthrown.

The resolution warns the big colonial states that are continuing to help the Iraqi regime and emphasizes that our country [Iraq] does not hold itself at all responsible for the present regime's agreements, contracts, and loans. Thanks are expressed to those Arab countries that are trying together with our people to reveal the true identity of the ruling regime and are struggling to cooperate in overthrowing it. A warning has been given to those countries who have not yet refrained from assisting this regime; they have been invited to place themselves alongside the people of Iraq.

The SAIRI resolution states: During this phase when our nation has expanded its operations against the regime in various parts of Iraq, especially in the northern Kurdish populated regions, we call on all the people of Iraq to continue these operations and we invite the soldiers and officers of the Iraqi Armed Forces to be at the side of their own people. We also call on pilots not to place themselves on the black-list which contains the names of Saddam and his mercenaries and to get themselves out of the ranks of the enemies of Islamic nations.

Also, thanks were expressed to the Islamic Republic of Iran for its fatherly attitude and behavior toward all the Iraqi strugglers and an invitation was extended to them to participate in the conference of solidarity with the Iraqi nation which will be convened at the end of next week in Tehran. The resolution states: While participating in this conference, we shall continue our Islamic plan toward the expansion and escalation of struggle and resistance and uniting the struggle along the path toward the overthrow of Saddam: And we invite all struggling groups who want to serve the oppressed Iraqi people to put all their resources to work toward this end.

The resolution continues: On the eve of the destiny-making offensive of Islam's forces against the mercenary Iraqi regime we draw the attention of all the Iraqi people to observation of the following:

The identification of the 'Aflaqite criminals and the security service forces and the mercenaries of the regime so that they may be punished at the appropriate time for their crimes in accordance with Islamic justice;

The identification of military, political, and economic centers and also centers where the regime lodges its documents and records, so that these may be safeguarded at the suitable time;

The identification of centers that house the advisors and subjects of the governments of arrogance so that they may be taken over at a suitable time;

The identification of centers for the storage of foodstuffs and other vital goods in order to safeguard them at the appropriate time;

From now on we must be prepared to confront possible future economic problems and shortages in the availability of foodstuffs.

We request the heroic tribes of the Tigris and the Euphrates and also the Kurdish inhabited regions to utilize everything in order to deliver the final blow. The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq will give the necessary training, at the right time, to all peoples of the oppressed Iraqi nation.

SAIRI Message Thanks Montazeri

LD211628 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — The Iraqi Muslim people allied with the Islamic combatants of Iran are on the brink of victory, despite the massive U.S.-led imperialist aid to the tottering Baghdad regime, said a message from the Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), Sunday. The message addressed to Ayatollah Montazeri, expressed SAIRI's gratitude towards the future spiritual leader of the Islamic Republic for his benign guidance. SAIRI, which held its third general assembly last week, coinciding with the start of its sixth term, had earlier renewed its allegiance to the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Saturday.

SAIRI's third general assembly reviewed the forthcoming conference on 'Iraqi People's Cooperation' to be held in Tehran

December (24-28), which aims at uniting Iraqi opposition groups to accelerate the downfall of the Baghdad regime.

SAIRI Officials Meet Montazeri

LD230907 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — A large group, members of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) accompanied by [the] president's representative, head of the SAIRI, and members of the headquarters in charge of the forthcoming Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation, met with Ayatollah Montazeri here Monday.

According to the Iranian radio Ayatollah Montazeri praised attention being paid to the Islamic Movement in Iraq and said that alongside the struggle against the Baghdad regime special attention should be paid to training of judicial, political, military, and cultural staff. In this respect, he added, the Iranian experience could be made use of.

Ayatollah Montazeri pointed out that the issue of the Iraq-imposed war should not be neglected and the Iraqi forces fighting against the Baghdad regime should not forget war fronts.

Majlis Speaker on 'Iraqi People's' Conference

LD211747 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 21, IRNA — The Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation to be held here 24-28 December is aimed at determining the future of Iraq according to the will of the Iraqi Muslim people. Speaking at the Majlis session here Sunday, Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani further called on all Iraqis to inform the conference of their opinions about the future of Iraq and its Constitution, after the eventual downfall of Saddam Husayn.

Hoj. Rafsanjani also called on Majlis deputies and the Iranian people to set forth their reasonable viewpoints on the Iraqi issue in view of the victories of the Muslim combatants. He further expressed hope that all people would actively contribute to the issue. Major Iraqi opposition groups are to gather in the five-day conference in Tehran.

Officials Arrive for Conference

LD220931 Tehran IRNA in English 0844 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Names as received]

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Over ninety Iraqi dissidents and non-Iraqi personalities have arrived here to take part in the upcoming Conference on Iraqi People's Cooperation, to be held Dec 24-28. The officials, representing groups and parties opposing the Baghdad regime, have come from Syria, Britain, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, and Lebanon. The Iraqi group includes figures such as Pinent Alim Seyyed Mohammad Bahr-Ul-Olum, head of Iraq's Ummah Party Sa'i/ Saleh, and Sa'id Mehdi Hakim.

Meanwhile Lebanese ulema Sa'id Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, Amal Movement leader Husayn Musavi, and one of the Lebanon's Hizbollah leader Shaykh Sobhi Tofeili have already arrived to attend the conference.

Talks With France on Financial Dispute Begin

LD221524 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA -- Visiting French delegation and Iranian officials started their first round of talks on settling the Iran-Paris financial disputes, here Monday. France's Economic and Finance Ministry official Jean Claud Trichet and Iran's Deputy Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mehdi Navvab are heading the Iranian and French delegations at the talks.

The talks follow previous meetings held between Iranian and French officials for solving a financial dispute over a dlr one-billion loan granted to France by Iran. However, France's total debts to Iran is estimated at more than dlrs two billion by experts, taking into account the loan's interest. The Paris government has already paid dlrs 330 million to Iran as the first installment.

The French delegation arrived here Sunday night.

Majlis Deputies Condemn Mehdi Hashemi Actions

LD221337 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] In a letter to the imam of the nation [Khomeyni] over 120 Majlis deputies condemned the actions of Mehdi Hashemi and Ahmad Kashani, and they requested the imam to issue guidelines on this matter.

In another letter addressed to the imam, more than 120 Majlis deputies condemned the actions of Mehdi Hashemi and his group and expressed their gratitude to the imam for his decisive action to eliminate the dangers threatening the Islamic community from the eclectics and deviationists. The deputies then announced: The highly meaningful letter by the deputy leader [Montazeri] also raised the hopes of those advocating the complete supremacy of Islamic precepts and the strengthening of the Islamic Republic. The letter also foiled the aims of the eclectics, deviationists, and factionalists. It is hoped that, by observing the categorical orders issued by your eminence [Khomeyni] the Ministry of Information will continue to decisively prosecute the agents and sympathizers of this rumormongering, seditionist group which advocates eclectic thinking and which is divorced from the clerics and Islamic scholars.

'Spies' for Iraqi Regime To Be Executed

LD221802 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchestan Prov., Dec 22, IRNA — Five persons involved in espionage activities for the Iraqi regime will shortly be executed in this southeastern provincial capital, said local prosecutor Br. Husseinian Monday. The spies were

arrested by Iranian security agents and sentenced to death by the provincial branch of the Islamic Revolution's Tribunal.

Husseinian also said that a group of 12 counterrevolutionaries and bandits had also been arrested in an operation recently launched by Iranian Armed Forces in Korin District of Zahedan. Eight of them have been sentenced to death. The official said that a large amount of weapons and ammunition seized from the band indicates direct links between them and the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and the outlawed Iranian grouplets outside the country. The seized weapons included several Iraqi and Egyptian-made arms, he added. The arrested group also confessed to having killed some Iranian Gendarmes and Islamic Revolution's committeemen, he said.

Velayati Cables ICO, UN on Iraqi Raids

LD221920 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati cabled a message to the secretary-general of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) Monday calling on him to do all within his power to force the Iraqi regime to discontinue its inhuman raids on Iranian civilians.

The message said the Iraqi raids on Iranian residential areas have resulted in the martyrdom and wounding of numerous Iranian civilians. It said the Iraqi atrocities were clear violation of international law as well as the 1949 Geneva conventions.

Velayati sent a similar message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Sunday.

Iraqi Attacks No Influence on Tehran's 'Fate'

LD221924 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 22, IRNA — Iraq's stepped-up bombing of Iranian residential areas is because of its inability to attack military and industrial centers of the country, said Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Monday. Speaking to a group of workers and craftsmen of the country's industrial units, Musavi said that enemies of the Islamic Revolution should rest assured that bombardment of Iran's economic-industrial sites as well as its civilian areas will not influence the fate of the Islamic Republic in the least.

The enemies fancy that by attacking the homes and shops, Iranian people will be forced to abandon their support for the Islamic Republic, "but such pressures rather make our people more resistant," he added. The prime minister also lauded activities of the factory workers at this crucial point when numerous plots are being hatched against Iran. "The Islamic Revolution has endowed us the character to rely on our own initiatives and power against these difficulties," Musavi noted.

Elsewhere, the prime minister said that Iranian manpower is confident it can accurately assess and deploy the personnel needed in reconstructing war-stricken areas. He said this ability also contributes to their being the "determining power of the region." Iraq's inability to properly exploit its superior technology against Iran should be viewed as a tribute to Iranian Basij volunteer forces, Musavi said.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Retaliation Against Iraq Detailed

LD221745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] [Announcer] A Central News Unit correspondent reports on the retaliatory attacks of the fighters of Islam against economic, industrial, and military targets in Iraq:

[Unidentified correspondent] In retaliation for the aggressive acts of the wretched and desperate regime of Baghdad in attacking the civilian targets of our country, the powerful forces of Islam in Bakhtaran and Ilam last night and today, with the execution of heavy fire against economic and military targets in Khanaqin, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq, and tens of other military townships, as well as weapons emplacements of the military units of the defeated forces of Iraq, inflicted heavy losses and casualties upon the defeated forces of Saddam.

[Announcer] According to the correspondent's report, quoting an informed military source following the heavy shellings of last night and today, columns of smoke and fire could be seen over all enemy military and economic installations. Since 2200 last night, the movement of enemy ambulances in various areas confirms the view that heavy casualties have been inflicted upon the enemy.

Only 1 day after the dastardly bombing of residential areas in Bakhtaran, while the mourners of this town were burying their blood-drenched martyrs, the blood-thirsty rulers of Baghdad once again brought another part of the West, namely Eslamabad-e Gharb, under their heavy and savage bombing. The bombings, which were carried out in stages this morning and this afternoon, resulted in 43 civilians of the town being martyred and a large number of others wounded. Immediately after these crimes, which added another page to the black and shameful file of the Iraqi Ba'thist party, the mourning but heroic and steadfast people of the town went to the assistance of their martyred compatriots, and with the help of the executive organs in Bakhtaran, mobilized themselves to help the injured.

According to the correspondent's report the last attack took place at a time when the people were busy collecting and transporting their martyrs and the injured. According to the same report, the mercenary Iraqi pilots, while leaving the skies of the region, bombed Barfabad village, which caused a number of losses and casualties.

Shelling of Iraqi Cities Suspended

LD230642 Tehran IRNA in English 0636 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 22, IRNA — The 24 hour shelling of the Iraqi border cities in a 250 kms long border strip from Sayyid Sadiq to Zurbatiyah, stopped at 20:00 hours local time (16:30 hours GMT) Monday. The shelling was in retaliation for the Iraqi

bombardment of cities in the Iranian border provinces of Bakhtaran and Ilam which martyred hundreds of civilians and caused massive damage.

According to military commanders, the Iranian artillery units pounded Iraqi troop concentration centers in Khurmal, Sayyid Sadiq, Dar Bandijan, Goureh Ghou, Khanaqin, Mandali, Bardeh, and Zurbatiyah. In a 250 kms long area the Iraqi military and economic centers including Banmil oil pumping station were pounded and smoke of the fire filled the area.

The Iranian shelling has caused heavy damages and casualties to Iraq. The Iraqi forces in retaliation opened fire on the Iranian border cities of Qasr-e Shirin and Sumar, which was immediately silenced by the Iranian forces.

The Iranian shelling was in response to Sunday and Monday Iraqi air raids on two Iranian western cities of Bakhtaran and Eslamabad-e Gharb. The number of casulaties and degree of damages inflicted on Iraq was so high that panicked the Iraqi military officials and made the Iraqi military spokesman to deny Iraqi attacks on the Iranian western cities.

Later Report: Shelling To Continue
LD230903 Tehran IRNA in English at 0825 GMT 23 Dec 86

["Shelling of Iraqi Cities Continue" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its reprisal attacks on Iraqi military, industrial, and economic centers, as long as the Iraqi Ba'thist regime continues its attacks on Iranian cities and martyring civilians.

The War Information Headquarters in a statement Monday had called on the Iraqi people, except for those living in the four holy cities, to evacuate the areas close to the said centers.

The retaliatory 24-hour attacks were scheduled to end at 16:30 hours GMT Monday. However, the Iraqi air raid on western city of Eslamabad-e Gharb in Bakhtaran Province Monday morning which martyred hundred [as received] civilians made Iran prolong the time period and continue its retaliatory attacks until the Iraqi regime has learned a good lesson.

IRNA Bakhtaran correspondent in a dispatch earlier had said that the shelling of the Iraqi cities had stopped at 16:30 hours GMT Monday, which hereby is corrected. The Iranian shelling of the Iraqi cities will be continued as long as the Baghdad regime resorts to beastly actions.

Bakhtaran Hit 23 Dec; 10 Killed
LD231100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] A Central News Unit correspondent reports from Bakhtaran on today's savage air raid by the Zionist enemy on the residential areas of Bakhtaran:

Weak and unable to withstand the combatants of Islam, Saddam's criminals, at 0855 today, again bombed 12 areas of Bakhtaran, for 12 minutes, with aircraft presented to them by the superpowers. The mercenary enemy, using rockets, cluster and incendiary bombs, and machine gun fire, attacked men, women, and children. By 1130, 10 persons had been martyred and 124 injured in this savage attack. In addition to dozens of houses and shops being wrecked, some damage was inflicted on houses in the town.

Following this savage attack, the resisting and self-sacrificing people of Bakhtaran and relief units rushed to the assistance of the victims, transferring the injured to treatment centers.

Fatalities Raised to 'At Least' 15
LD231054 Tehran IRNA in English 1047 GMT 23 Dec 86

["15 Martyred in Bakhtaran Bombardment"]

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec 23, IRNA — At least 15 are reported martyred and scores of others injured in Tuesday morning Iraqi bombardments of the western [word indistinct].

In the latest Iraqi attacks several homes were also damaged or destroyed. On Sunday bombardment of Bakhtaran 103 civilians were martyred. Those injured have been transferred to hospitals.

The War Information Headquarters in a statement Monday said that Iran will continue shelling of Iraqi cities with the exception of the four holy cities, as long as Iraq continued to attack Iranian cities and martyr civilians. Hundred [as received] people were also martyred on Monday bombardment of another Bakhtaran Province city, Eslamabad-e Gharb.

Army Sinks 3 Iraqi Frigates
LD230724 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — Three Iraqi frigates were hit and sunk by the naval forces of the Iranian Army, Monday morning, said a Joint Staff headquarters statement here Tuesday. The Iranian Navy opened heavy fire on the frigates which intended to enter the Persian Gulf waters through Khawr Abdallah, it added.

Red Cross, UN Experts See Bombed Areas
LD202310 Tehran IRNA in English 1704 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 20, IRNA — A delegation from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) inspected residential areas of Ahvaz and Andimeshk, Khuzestan Prov., Thursday. The areas were bombed recently by Iraqi warplanes.

The ICRC delegation is here to supervise implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention as well as its pre-announced statement on prohibiting of the Iraqi attacks on civilian areas and Baghdad regime's use of chemical weapons.

A UN team of experts stationed in Tehran also inspected the bombed areas of the said cities on the same day. It will report its findings to the Secretary-General Javier Peres de Cuellar.

IRGC, Kurds Attack Iraqi City

LD231129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular operations of the Ground Forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, while carrying out operations, attacked the city of (Sangab) from several axes. During the early hours of the attack on (Sangab), 43 km west of Kirkuk, four enemy bases outside the city were captured. Later, the city was liberated and all enemy bases in it destroyed.

After the city's capture, forces of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime, backed by several tanks, armored personnel carriers, other troop-carrying vehicles, and air support of helicopter gunships, moved from the direction of Chamchal highway to recapture the city. However, thanks to intense fire from the forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, the Iraqi troops lost several tanks, a large number of their personnel were killed, and they were forced to retreat. Among the dead was an Iraqi brigadier commander and another officer. In the course of these operations the Patriotic Union forces captured several vehicles, military equipment, and enemy ammunition.

In the course of these operations — during which a unit of the Iraqi Muslim mojahedin affiliated to the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], participated — the following successes were gained: 14 Enemy bases outside the city of (Sangab) were captured, the Iraqi Army [juhush] center occupied and the armed mercenaries deployed in the center killed, the Ba'th Party communication center captured, and the economic installations and state departments destroyed.

According to another report from the Ramadan Headquarters the forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, by infiltrating the Iraqi city of Irbil, succeeded in destroying military garrisons, the training base of Iraqi security forces, the communication building, the Al-Sha'bi Army Headquarters, and all government centers of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam. Considerable losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy. It is necessary to mention that these operations were supported by the city's inhabitants.

'Infiltration Operation' Viewed

LD231156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] According to an Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Central Headquarters report Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Ground Forces, in the course of an inflitration operation along the Changuleh axis, last night destroyed two Zionist enemy bases and killed 40 Ba'thist troops. During this operation, bases of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist forces near the (Siarkenareh) bridge were destroyed. The combatants of Islam returned safely to their bases.